

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 31154 301940Z

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-01 TRSE-00

XMB-02 OPIC-03 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 IO-10

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R 301938Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5481

INFO AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PARIS 31154

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR FR CN

SUBJECT: INDEPENDENCE FOR COMORO ISLANDS

1. FRENCH PRESIDENT TOOK OFFICIAL NOTE ON DECEMBER 27 OF OVERWHELMING POPULAR VOTE IN COMORO ISLANDS ON DECEMBER 22 IN FAVOR OF INDEPENDENCE. HE ORDERED SECRETARY OF STATE FOR OVERSEAS TERRITORIES OLIVIER STIRN TO BEGIN NEGOTIATIONS WITH COMORO GOVERNMENT FOR INDEPENDENCE IN 1975. INDEPENDENCE REFERENDUM REQUIRES RATIFICATION BY FRENCH PARLIAMENT DURING NEXT SIX MONTHS. COMORO PRESIDENT AHMED ABDALLAH WILL BEGIN TALKS WITH STIRN IN PARIS THIS WEEK. APART FROM TIMING OF INDEPENDENCE, MOST IMPORTANT ELEMENT OF NEGOTIATIONS WILL BE LEVEL OF FRENCH ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.

2. COMMENT: FACT THAT MAJORITY OF VOTERS ON ISLAND OF MAYOTTE VOTED AGAINST INDEPENDENCE LIKELY CAUSE DEBATE IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PARLIAMENT TO BE MORE THAN ROUTINE BECAUSE SIGNIFICANT

NUMBER OF DEPUTIES FEEL GISCARD GOVERNMENT HAS BROKEN
PROMISE OF PREVIOUS GOVERNMENTS TO ALLOW EACH ISLAND TO
OPT FOR OR AGAINST INDEPENDENCE SEPARATELY. HOWEVER,
FACT THAT 94 PERCENT OF ENTIRE COMORO POPULATION VOTED
FOR INDEPENDENCE, AND IN VIEW OF GENERAL APATHY TOWARD
ISSUE IN FRANCE AS A WHOLE, PARLIAMENT FULLY EXPECTED TO
RATIFY.

RUSH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COMORO ISLANDS, INDEPENDENCE, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 DEC 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Errors: N/A
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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30 JUN 2005

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